

Message Text

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13

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01

RSR-01 /106 W

----- 001981

R 080720 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1868

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAIROBI 2908

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, KE, SG

SUBJ: SENGHOR' S NON- RECEPTION

REF: NAIROBI 6278 OF DEC 14, 1972

1. SUMMARY: SENEGALS' S PRESIDENT SENGHOR STOPPED BRIEFLY IN KENYA ON MAY 6, BUT FOR SOME STILL UNEXPLAINED REASON WAS NOT RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT KENYATTA.

2. SENEGAL' S PRESIDENT SENGHOR STOPPED BRIEFLY IN MOMBASA ON SUNDAY, MAY 6, ON HIS WAY BACK FROM MAURITIUS, OSTENSIBLY TO TALK WITH PRESIDENT KENYATTA ABOUT AFRICA' S FUTURE ASSOCIATION WITH EEC. HOWEVER, KENYATTA, IN MOMBASA ON A WORKING HOLIDAY, DID NOT RECEIVE HIM, DESPITE SENGHOR' S CAREFUL ADVANCE PREPARATION THAT INCLUDED A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR KENYATTA DELIVERED PERSONALLY TO FONMIN MUNGAI BY SENEGALESE
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MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIA ON MAY 4.

3. DESPITE WELCOMING COMMITTEE THAT INCLUDED MUNGAI,
MINISTER OF STATE KOINANGE, MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND

INDUSTRY KIANO AND EAC ECONOMIC MINISTER OUKO, SENGHOR
WAS OBVIOUSLY MIFFED. POINTEDLY NOTED IN AIRPORT
SPEECH HE HAD NOT SEEN KENYATTA WHEN HE PASSED THROUGH
KENYA ON WAY TO MAURITIUS, IMPLYING CLEARLY
EXPECTED TO ON RETURN VISIT. SENGHOR DID, HOWEVER,
ACCEPT GOK' S INVITATION TO PAY A STATE VISIT AT SOME
LATER DATE.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY' S FOREIGN OFFICE CONTACTS ARE TODAY
SHAKING THEIR HEADS OVER STILL UNEXPLAINED SLIGHT TO

ONE OF AFRICA' S SENIOR STATESMEN. EMBASSY HAS NO RPT
NO EVIDENCE THAT KENYATTA WAS ILL. IT SUSPECTS SOME
OF BLAME FOR MIX- UP MAY LIE WITH MUNGAI, WHO MAY HAVE
BRIEFED KENYATTA ON SENGHOR' S VISIT AT LAST MINUTE
ONLY TO FIND PRESIDENT WAS UNWILLING TO RECEIVE
ANYONE ON SUNDAY. IF SO, THIS IS NOT FIRST TIME
KENYATTA HAS BEEN UNAVAILABLE TO HIGH RANKING VISITORS
(SEE REFTEL).

5. MUNGAI HIMSELF BARELY MADE IT TO MOMBASA IN TIME
TO GREET SENGHOR, AS HE MISSED REGULAR EAST AFRICAN
AIRWAYS COMMERCIAL FLIGHT FROM NAIROBI AND HAD TO
HAVE THE PLANE, LOADED WITH FOREIGN TOURISTS, RECALLED
TO NAIROBI TO PICK HIM UP. ALL IN ALL, A BLACK MARK
FOR KENYA' S (AND MUNGAI' S) IMAGE.
LINDSTROM

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DAR ES SALAAM
KAMPALA
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